

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-15 (Cancelled).

Claim 16 (New): A process for preparing a compound, which is a hydrate of 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione, maleic acid salt, said process comprising crystallizing a maleic acid salt of 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione from an aqueous alkanolic solvent,

wherein said compound contains water in the range of from 0.2 to 1.1% w/w and said compound provides at least one of:

- (i) an infra red spectrum containing peaks at 764 and 579 cm⁻¹; and
- (ii) an X-ray powder diffraction pattern substantially in accordance with Figure II.

Claim 17 (New): A process according to claim 16, wherein the aqueous alkanolic solvent is selected from the group aqueous ethanol, aqueous denatured ethanol, aqueous isopropanol and mixtures thereof.

Claim 18 (New): A process according to claim 16, wherein the aqueous alkanolic solvent contains from 2% to 2.5% of water by volume.

Claim 19 (New): A process according to claim 16, wherein the aqueous alkanolic solvent contains from 2% to 2.3% of water by volume.

Claim 20 (New): A process according to claim 16, wherein the aqueous alkanolic solvent contains 2.1% of water by volume.

Claim 21 (New): A process according to claim 16, wherein said compound provides both of:

- (i) an infra red spectrum containing peaks at 764 and 579 cm⁻¹; and

(ii) an X-ray powder diffraction pattern substantially in accordance with Figure II.

Claim 22 (New): A process according to claim 16, wherein the water content of said compound is in the range of from 0.5 to 0.6%w/w.

Claim 23 (New): A process according to claim 16, wherein said compound, in a mineral oil dispersion, provides an infra red spectrum substantially in accordance with Figure I.

Claim 24 (New): A process according to claim 16, wherein said compound provides an X-ray powder diffraction pattern is substantially in accordance with in Figure II.